



QUEEN ANNE BOULEVARD IMPROVEMENTS PUBLIC MEETING # 3

Monday, April 23, 2007
McClure Middle School

MEETING SUMMARY

**Staff Members
Present:**

David Goldberg, Project Planner; Pamela Alsbaugh, Project Manager Sr. Landscape Architect

Meeting:

The purpose of the meeting was to 1) present recommendations for the improvements to Queen Anne Boulevard which respond to ideas gathered at the previous public meetings, written comments, and telephone calls; 2) express community response to ideas presented and hear neighbors' preferences and concerns; and 3) reach consensus on park elements to be included and site design.

The meeting was held from 7:00-8:30. About 45 community members attended and many participated in the discussion. They freely shared their preferences and dislikes in an open manner and everyone was quite open to hear what others thought.

The focus of the meeting was a presentation showing a broad range of improvements throughout the boulevard. The discussion revolved around which park elements the participants would like to see and aspects of the plan they preferred. Proposed improvements include:

1) Maintenance: Installation of lawn, with structural soil on the root zones of park trees where eroded and elimination of parking on tree roots, on W Fulton St and elsewhere; partnering with SDOT on the repair and replacement of broken sidewalks using unit paving adjacent to mature trees; clean-up and increased maintenance of the street ends, the laurel hedge around the cemetery, and other park property; on-going maintenance of vegetation overgrowing the sidewalk on 7th Ave. W.

2) Pedestrian access improvements and amenities: Removal of the paved planting strip used for parking on the SE corner of W McGraw St and 7th Ave W for improved safety and sight lines; installing a concrete walk on the east side of W. McGraw Pl, using unit paving where appropriate; installing 4' wide crushed rock paths on the west side of W. McGraw Pl, on the west side of Bigelow Ave between Galer St and Lee St, between Garfield St to Hayes St, and on the south side of W Smith St between 1st Ave N and Warren Ave N.; replacing the asphalt walk with a concrete walk on the west side of Bigelow Ave N between Garfield Ave N and Galer Ave N and on the north-west side of the 1100 block of Bigelow Ave N, using unit paving where appropriate; removing impediments to walking on park property on both sides of E McGraw Pl.; installing benches where there won't be conflicts with neighbors.

3) Identity improvements: Landscaping at four of the park triangles, including the south end of the boulevard on 8th Ave W across from Parson's Garden and Marshall Park, the triangles at W Fulton St and 8th Ave W, at W Smith St and 1st Ave W, at Nob Hill Ave N and Wheeler Street; installation of four park rainbow signs, at the south end of 8th Ave W, the triangle at W

Fulton St and 8th Ave W, the triangle at W Smith and 1st Ave W, and at the south end of Bigelow Ave N; removal of new non-park trees for replacement with Landmark park trees; planting park trees where missing throughout; removal of old unused asphalt paving on planting strips to install lawn at various locations.

Generally people approved the plan as proposed throughout the boulevard and they commented that it was a well balanced plan. Some people were concerned that there still would remain many blocks without a walkway on at least one side of the street. They commented that parking prevents them from walking on the park even where there are no impediments and they would like the parking stopped. They supported removal of the parking at W McGraw St and 7th Ave W to increase sight lines and safety. Residents on W McGraw Pl asked why most of the impacts were to W McGraw Pl, if we had conducted a traffic study, and where people were going to cross this street safely. Some of the neighbors thought there was poor outreach to residents along this street. Residents on the east side of W McGraw were very pleased that a sidewalk would be installed, as they have been concerned about safety for a long time. A few people asked that we revisit lighting, since lighting was included in the Pro Parks Levy project description. One person suggested the long term goal of installing Wilcox Wall lights throughout the boulevard. People were concerned that trees would be planted where there are power lines and that benches may be installed too close to their homes. They also continue to be concerned about speeds on the boulevard. In the end people commented that they were pleased with the overall plan and thanked us for a balanced thoughtful conclusion.

After this discussion, budget and schedule were briefly mentioned. David noted that approximately 75% of the overall budget would be available for construction phase of the project, with the other 25% being used for planning, design, and public involvement. Construction should begin by July and be complete by May 2008. Work requiring tree relocation will wait until the dormancy season in October and some planting will take place in the spring 2008 planting season. Sidewalk repair and replacement will be coordinated with SDOT schedules.

Additional Information is Available:

- Park web site: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/proparks/projects/QueenAnneBoulevard.htm>
- Pamela Alspaugh, Sr. Landscape Architect; pamela.alspaugh@seattle.gov